Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

Economic Statistics Released During the Week of November 18, 2002 to November 22, 2002

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	October			In October, the Canadian CPI rose by 3.2% compared to the same month last year. The most significant price increases came from cigarettes (up 42.0% from October 2001), auto insurance premiums (+18.7%), gasoline (+9.1%) and electricity (+9.8%). Three-fifths of Alberta's 5.2% CPI increase was due to tobacco prices (up 65.6%), auto insurance premiums (+36.3%), and energy (+8.1%).
Alberta	127.3	1.1%	5.2%	
Canada	120.5	0.3%	3.2%	
Canadian Composite Leading Index (1992=100)	October			The growth of the Composite Leading Index was unchanged in October, registering a 0.2% increase for the third consecutive month. Six of the ten components recorded increases, led by housing (up 1.7%). The main source of weakness was the stock market, with the S&P / TSX stock price index declining by 4.1% in October.
	179.3	0.2%	7.6%	
Retail sales ($ millions)	September			Canadian retail sales fell by 0.5% in September. Five of seven retail sectors recorded declining sales, with the largest decreases reported in clothing (-2.3%), general merchandise (-1.4%) and automotives (-0.9%). The only provinces to record increasing sales were Newfoundland (+2.7%), Nova Scotia (+0.8%) and Prince Edward Island (+0.7%). The largest declines were in Manitoba (-3.0%) and Saskatchewan (-2.3%). Alberta's sales were virtually unchanged.
Alberta	3,118	0.0%	8.9%	
Canada	25,572	-0.5%	6.9%	
Manufacturing Shipments ($ millions)	September			In September, Canadian manufacturing shipments rose by 1.2%. The increase was fuelled by domestic spending on durable, big-ticket goods (up 1.8%), which offset a 0.1% decline in shipments to the U.S. Alberta recorded the largest month-over-month increase of any province, with shipments up by 4.1% in September. Manitoba (-4.0%), British Columbia (-2.9%) and New Brunswick (-1.6%) were the only provinces to report decreases from the previous month.
Alberta	3,586	4.1%	5.5%	
Canada	44,495	1.2%	8.8%	